

# Motor Carrier Safety Advisory Committee

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**F M C S A**  
*Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration*

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## Agenda

- Passenger Carrier Outcomes
- National Motorcoach Safety Program
- Passenger Carrier Application Vetting Program



# PASSENGER CARRIER PROGRAM



## Fatalities in Motor Vehicle Crashes

| Year           | All Vehicles | Large Trucks | All Buses | Motorcoach |
|----------------|--------------|--------------|-----------|------------|
| 2004           | 42,836       | 5,253        | 315       | 57         |
| 2005           | 43,510       | 5,240        | 340       | 70         |
| 2006           | 42,708       | 5,027        | 337       | 39         |
| 2007           | 41,059       | 4,808        | 322       | 51         |
| Change FY04-07 | -4.1%        | -8.2%        | +2.2%     | -10.5%     |



## National Motorcoach Safety Program

### Six Areas:

- Increase the number of motorcoach Compliance Reviews
- Higher priority of motorcoach companies in SafeStat
- Formal motorcoach inspection program in all States
- Improve data collection and analysis
- Reduce the number of motorcoach fires
- Expedite New Entrant safety audits of motorcoach companies



## National Motorcoach Safety Program

- Increase the number of motorcoach Compliance Reviews
  - FY 2005 – 457
  - FY 2006 – 619
  - FY 2007 – 1304
  - FY 2008 – 1306



## National Motorcoach Safety Program

- Higher priority of motorcoach companies in SafeStat
  - Unsatisfactory safety rating
  - Two or more SafeStat SEAs of 75 or more
  - Unauthorized or OOS, active passenger carriers
  - Accident or Driver SEA of 70 or more
  - Conditional safety rating more than 9 months
  - Safety rating more than 5 years old and recent accident
  - Known to be currently operating and has operated 5 or more years without a safety rating
- Increase from 101 companies to 889 companies; 2.5% to 22.5% of active passenger carriers in FMCSA's census



## National Motorcoach Safety Program

- Formal motorcoach inspection program in all States

Require State partners to include a bus inspection program in their Commercial Vehicle Safety Plan to receive Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program funds

FY 2005 – 56,084 total inspections

FY 2006 - 126,626 total inspections

FY 2007 – 147,867 total inspections

FY 2008 – 148,558 total inspections



## National Motorcoach Safety Program

### ➤ Improve data collection and analysis

#### Bus Crash Causation Study – Preliminary Findings

- More than half of the crashes caused by other vehicles/drivers (20 out of 39)
- Only 4 crashes related to vehicle malfunctions
  - 2 brake failures
  - 2 bus fires
- Bus driver error accounted for other crashes



## National Motorcoach Safety Program

- Reduce the number of motorcoach fires
  - On July 24, 2007, FMCSA published a FR Notice advising that bus fires are considered crashes.
  - Developed a national bus fire database and conducted fire safety analysis on more than 500 fire incidents.
  - Identified mechanical conditions that cause fires.
  - Through the Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance changed the out-of-service criteria to include oil leaks in wheel hubs and frayed/damaged wiring in electrical systems.
  - Expanding the original study and partnering with NHTSA on a Special Crash Investigation unit for bus fires.



# PASSENGER CARRIER PROGRAM



## National Motorcoach Safety Program

- Expedite New Entrant safety audits of motorcoach companies
  - July 2007, FMCSA established an internal goal to complete passenger carrier new entrant audits within 9 months.
  - On average, a safety audit is conducted on a new motorcoach company within 4.5 months.



# PASSENGER CARRIER VETTING



- Develop a More Comprehensive System for Manually Vetting Passenger Carriers Operating Authority Applications
- Use all Available Sources to Insure the Applicant is “Willing and Able” to Comply With the FMCSRs and Operate Safely





# Vetting Process



- Review all applications for completeness.
- Apply the Evasion Detection Algorithm (EDA) to the application information.
- Electronically send the application to the Division Offices for review to determine if they have any relevant information.
- Contact State agencies such as the Secretary of State, Department of Revenue, Public Service Commission, DMV, and all other relevant State agencies that regulate passenger carriers to obtain additional information.



# Evasion Detection Algorithm



## Data Fields analyzed for a match by EDA

- Person
- Phone
- Address
- E-Mail
- Insurance Policy
- Insurance Company\*

\*This field only matches if there is a match in another category



# Vetting Process



## Ongoing activities to improve the vetting process:

- Modifying the Motor Carrier Management Information System (MCMIS) and the Licensing & Insurance (L&I) system.
- Modifying the EDA.
- Designing the Compass registration system to include chameleon carrier identifiers.
- Exploring the use of PRISM data to aid in identifying chameleon carriers.



# Office of Enforcement and Compliance



- Thank you!
- Any questions or comments?

